



MINUTES

February 22, 2006

I. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Batton, Co-Chair, called the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children to order at 5:10 pm, in the large conference room at the Parks, Recreation and Marine Administration Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

Present:

Pierre Batton, 1st District Representative, Co-Chair

Rebecca Turrentine, Education, Co-Chair

Helen Ingram, *Education*

Marty Isozaki, *Job Training*

Harry Koulos, *3rd District Youth*

Mackenzie Martin, *5th District Youth*

Jeanetta McAlpin, *Social Services*

Jon Meyer, *LBUSD Board Member*

Crystal Palatto, *7th District Youth*

Phillip Penn, *8th District Youth*

Victor Perez, *Health*

Marc Rothenberg, *Juvenile Justice*

Kevin Scott, *Youth Enrichment*

Mary Soth, *Early Childhood Development*

Chelsii Summerville, *4th District Youth*

Absent:

Sothea Chhay, *6th District Youth*

Amber Hines, *9th District Youth*

Lauren Perry, *2nd District Youth*

Jessica Quintana, *Parent*

Staff:

Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine

Cynthia Fogg, Superintendent, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

Andrew Romero, Youth Development Specialist, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

Toni Forde-Hixon, Community Services Supervisor, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

Christina Santos, Research and Data Specialist, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

Guests:

David Eschen, Manager of Planning and Development, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

Chris Ferrell, Teacher, Los Angeles County Office of Education's Long Beach Community Day School

John Pearce, 5th District Representative

Sophia Sami, 4th District Representative

Tina Smith, Operation Jump Start

Dominic Storelli, 3rd District Representative
Cecile Walters, Workforce Development Bureau

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Co-Chair Turrentine and seconded by Commissioner Martin to approve the January 25, 2006 Commission on Youth and Children minutes as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMENTS

No comments.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

As usual, the Superintendent's monthly report was included in the agenda packet. Co-Chair Turrentine made a note that the Mayoral Candidate Forum date needs to be changed to March 2, 2006 rather than March 6, 2006, as listed.

Ms. Fogg explained the importance of the California After School Summit 2006, which is scheduled for March 15, 2006. Ms. Fogg continued to explain that this year's summit would be focused on Proposition 49, funding for after school programs. Ms. Fogg thanked the commissioners who expressed their willingness to attend this summit. Ms. Fogg continued by informing the commission that a Long Beach delegation, which consists of the Long Beach After School Advocacy Partnership, would be attending this event. In addition to the Long Beach delegation, Co-Chairs Batton and Turrentine, Commissioner Meyer, and Ms. Fogg will also be attending this event. Ms. Fogg explained that an invitation has been extended to Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell, in hope to have a City leader attend this summit. However, we have not heard confirmation from Councilmember O'Donnell's office. At this time, Ms. Fogg asked Commissioner Isozaki, who lives in the Fourth District, to call his office to encourage Councilmember O'Donnell's participation in the summit, as a City leader and a teacher.

Ms. Fogg asked Andrew Romero to address and explain the importance of the Annual Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700). At this time, Mr. Romero and commission staff handed out extra copies of the Form 700 to the commissioners that did not have them on hand. Mr. Romero requested that the commissioners complete, sign, and turn in the forms to a staff member, if possible, before the adjournment of the meeting. Ms. Fogg discussed the term limits of the commission and asked the commissioners to complete the half-sheet handout inquiring if the commissioners wanted to be considered for reappointment. Mr. Romero quickly briefed the commissioners about the reappointment process.

Ms. Fogg introduced the video presentation of "Snapshot: Long Beach 100 Best Communities for Young People." The commissioners and guests viewed the video presentation, produced by Channel 8, which highlights the America's Promise 100 Best Communities award as well as the Pacific Region award.

Ms. Fogg updated the commission on the progress of the America's Promise Regional Forum. Ms. Fogg reminded the commission that Long Beach has been asked to hold the Regional Forum as a Regional prizewinner. Ms. Fogg updated the commission with the date of the Forum, which is currently set for June 8th and 9th.

Ms. Fogg explained the "Federal Youth Budget for 2006," a handout that was copied from Youth Today. The handout explained how the Federal Government allocates funding to youth programs. Ms. Fogg discussed the distribution of funds for youth programs. Ms. Fogg also highlighted some of the areas that were affected by budget cuts.

At this time, Co-Chair Batton motioned to reorder the agenda to move Items IX B and IX C up to this time to accommodate the guest speakers. It was moved by Commissioner Turrentine and seconded by Commissioner Isozaki to approve the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Item IX C: Project Citizen – Chris Ferrell, a teacher with the Los Angeles County Office of Education's Long Beach Community Day School, introduced a group of students who presented a brief presentation on Project Citizen, an anti-gun initiative. The presentation captured each of the students' real life experiences and struggle dealing with violence. The group has presented before City Council in hopes that the presentation will influence policymakers to place a ban on guns within the City of Long Beach.

It was moved by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Ingram to receive and file the report. The motion carried unanimously.

Item IX B: Sports Park – Parks, Recreation and Marine Manager of Planning and Development, Dennis Eschen, presented the sports park project, which highlighted the impact on the City's youth and their ability to use our free public park space. The item is brought before the commission by request of Mr. Mike Donelon, past city council member and current resident. Mr. Eschen displayed several layouts of the new sports project and explained the purpose of each layout and how it relates to different public issues. The reason for the presentation was to gain the support of the commission about the sports park project as it is presented to City Council on April 4, 2006.

The commission expressed interest and asked questions regarding the sports park project, which were answered by Dennis Eschen and Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine. The commission discussed the recommended action in length and decided to take more extensive action than was initially recommended. The commission decided to send an invitation to Mike Donelon to address the commission, at the next commission meeting, about his letter supporting the sports park project.

It was moved by Commissioner Soth and seconded by Commissioner Koulos to receive and file the report, but to also invite Mike Donelon to the next commission meeting to address the commission about his letter asking for support with the sports park project. The motion carried unanimously.

V. CO-CHAIRS REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

Co-Chair Batton had nothing to report to the commission.

Co-Chair Turrentine explained that Co-Chair Batton's early excusal was due to his class schedule.

Co-Chair Turrentine asked Mr. Romero about the Federal Legislative Agenda and the commission's response to the agenda. Mr. Romero responded that the Federal Legislative Agenda has been passed by City Council. Mr. Hester also responded on this issue, explaining that the both the State and Federal Legislative Agendas have been presented and approved by City Council. Mr. Hester also added that appending the commission's response was one of the major changes to both agendas.

VI. REPORTS

a. Committees

1. Executive Committee Commissioners Turrentine and Batton, Co-Chairs

No report.

2. Profile Project Committee

The new Profile Committee was reestablished with invitations to the following commissioners: Mary Soth, Kevin Scott, Victor Perez, MacKenzie Martin, Amber Hines, and Phillip Penn.

It was moved by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner McAlpin to nominate and approve the Profile Committee members. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Relations Committee Co-Chairs Chhay and McAlpin

Commissioner McAlpin attended the Voter's Right Conference, where she received a book and CD about the history of voting and the new Bills coming up in 2007. At the event, Ms. McAlpin was able to address the Long Beach delegation about the commission and the commission's tag line "...where the voices of youth matter." Ms. McAlpin was also able to promote the upcoming Mayoral Candidates Forum.

4. Long Beach Youth Fund Committee

Committee will be reconvening in March.

5. Special Implementation Committee Co-Chairs Batton and Scott

Commissioner Scott explained that the committee has been unable to meet due to conflicting schedules. However, the committee has been able to nomination and approve the new members of the Profile Committee.

6. Special Mayoral Candidates Forum Committee Co-Chairs Isozaki and Koulos

Commissioner Isozaki discussed the Mayoral Candidates Forum program that was previously distributed to the commission. Mr. Isozaki also discussed the selection process of the questions that are to be asked at the Mayoral Candidates Forum. Mr. Isozaki informed the commission that Operation Jump Start, a sponsor of the event, was able to get Panda Express to donate food for the reception prior to the event. Mr. Isozaki continued to explain the next steps of the event, which includes letters to each candidate and the rehearsal scheduled for Friday, February 24th at 3 pm in the Council Chambers. Mr. Isozaki also described the layout of the event and the reasons behind the layout. He encouraged commissioners to volunteer to help support the event.

b. Standing Items

1. Education and Youth Strategic Plan

No comment.

2. District Level Youth Advisory Councils

Report on DLYAC meetings

The various youth Commissioners present reported on the following schedules for the District Level Youth Advisory Councils. The schedule of the 2006 DLYAC meetings was distributed as an attachment to the agenda package. Andrew Romero elaborated on each district meeting.

District 1 Mayoral Candidates Forum.

District 2 Dormant.

District 3 Moved the meeting venue to Wilson Campus, which has allowed the group to meet during lunch. This effort has effectively brought in approximately 13-14 young people to sign up to be part of the DLYAC.

District 4 Mayoral Candidates Forum.

District 5 Mayoral Candidates Forum.

District 6 Mayoral Candidates Forum.

District 7 Mayoral Candidates Forum.

District 8 Participating in Diabetes Walk-A-Thon.

District 9 Mayoral Candidates Forum.

3. Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Task Force

Commissioner Rothenberg reported on the January 28th retreat at the Sky Link Golf Course. Mr. Rothenberg stated that the retreat expressed high energy in the reconfiguration and passion of the Task Force. Mr. Rothenberg explained that the group jump-started Phase Two of the Task Force and broke out into four focus areas, which include the following: Delinquency Prevention, Early Childhood Education, Work Force Development, and Media Community Education. Each group tried to develop projects rather than just ideas for each area. Mr. Rothenberg also commented on some upcoming events and ideas that the Task Force is planning.

Commissioner Rothenberg also commented about the Task Force's February 13th meeting, where the Task Force reviewed some of the events and discussions from the retreat. New representatives were also introduced and welcomed at the meeting. Mr. Rothenberg reported that announcements were made at the meeting, which promoted the Mayoral Candidates Forum and an Anti-Violence Conference scheduled for April 29th at Long Beach City College. Mr. Rothenberg informed the commission about the upcoming meeting, which is scheduled for March 3rd.

Commissioner Koulos also commented on his involvement in the Task Force, reporting that he feels that youth are outnumbered on the Task Force.

c. Non-Committee Commissioner Comments

1. Commissioner McAlpin attended the 8th Annual Leadership Dialogue held at the Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services. Ms. McAlpin was really impressed with the way the literature expressed what the youth had to say (the literature was handed out to the commissioners). Ms. McAlpin encouraged the commission to read the youth comments in the handout.
2. Commissioner Soth addressed the Community Plan that was developed and adopted by City Council in 2003, which focuses on shaping the Early Childhood Education System. Ms. Soth would like to request time during the commission's May meeting to have the Action Child Coordinator make a presentation on the update of the essence of this plan and the progress that has been made so far.
3. Commissioner Palatto passed out a flyer to promote a luau to raise money for California Families in Focus. The event, "Winter in Paradise," includes dinner and a silent auction. The proceeds will go to youth programs.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Annual Report** – The commission received an updated draft of the Annual Report. Co-Chair Turrentine amended the recommended action due to the lack of communication.

It was moved by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Ingram to approve the Annual Report with editorial changes from Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine and authorize staff to forward to City Council. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) Center for community Collaboration (CCC)** – Ms. Fogg introduced Mr. Romero as a member of the Planning Committee for this event. Mr. Romero reminded the commission about last year's Community Issues Forum. Ms. Fogg requested a formal approval of the commission's involvement to participate in this event. Ms. Fogg also requested advice from Commissioner Rothenberg about involving the Youth and Gang Task Force.

It was moved by Commissioner Rothenberg and seconded by Commissioner Perez to approve the participation of the CYC in the planning for the upcoming Community Issues Forum and nominate and approve commissioner participation at the event. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Sports Park

This item was moved to item IV on the agenda. There were no comments.

C. Project Citizen

This item was moved to item IV on the agenda. There were no comments.

X. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 22 at 5:00 p.m.**

XI. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Koulos and seconded by Commissioner Martin to adjourn the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children at 7:42 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

to Jane Grobaty at (562) 570-3232.

The City of Long Beach intends to provide reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If a special accommodation is desired, please call Christina Santos 48 hours prior to the meeting, at (562) 570-3538.

